

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT
ON APPLYING
AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE AUDIT COUNCIL
Columbia, South Carolina

Year Ended June 30, 1999



Office of the State Auditor

1401 MAIN STREET, SUITE 1200
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

THOMAS L. WAGNER, JR., CPA
STATE AUDITOR

(803) 253-4160
FAX (803) 343-0723

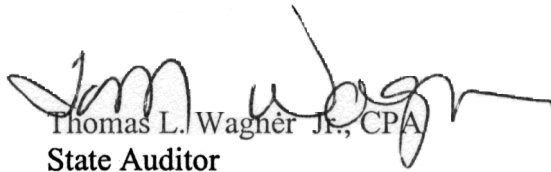
September 2, 1999

Members of the General Assembly
and
Members of the Legislative Audit Council
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

This report resulting from the application of certain agreed-upon procedures to certain accounting records of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1999, was issued by Finch, Hamilton & Co., LLC, Certified Public Accountants, under contract with the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor.

If you have any questions regarding this report, please let us know.

Respectfully submitted,


Thomas L. Wagner Jr., CPA
State Auditor

TLWjr/cwc

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Mr. Thomas L. Wagner, Jr., CPA
State Auditor
State of South Carolina
Columbia, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the South Carolina Office of the State Auditor and the governing body and management of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council, solely to assist you in evaluating the performance of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council in the areas addressed for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1999. This engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures was performed in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of the procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of the reports. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose. The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1. We were advised that the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council did not have any receipts for the fiscal year 1999. As a result, we performed no procedures in this area.
2. We tested selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records, were bona fide disbursements of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council, and were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations and if internal controls over the tested disbursement transactions were adequate. We also tested selected recorded non-payroll disbursements to determine if these disbursements were recorded in the proper fiscal year. We compared amounts recorded in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers to various STARS reports to determine if recorded expenditures were in agreement. We compared current year expenditures to those of the prior year to determine the reasonableness of the amounts paid and recorded by expenditure account. The individual transactions selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
3. We tested selected recorded payroll disbursements to determine if the tested payroll transactions were properly described, classified, and distributed in the accounting records; persons on the payroll were bona fide employees; payroll transactions, including employee payroll deductions, were properly authorized and were in accordance with existing legal requirements; and internal controls over the tested payroll transactions were adequate. We tested selected payroll vouchers to determine if the vouchers were properly approved and if the gross payroll agreed to amounts recorded in the general ledger and in STARS. We also tested payroll transactions for selected new employees and those who terminated employment to determine if internal controls over these transactions were adequate. We compared amounts recorded in the general ledger and subsidiary ledgers to various STARS reports to determine if recorded payroll and fringe benefit expenditures were in agreement. We performed other procedures such as comparing current year payroll expenditures to those of the prior year; comparing the percentage change in personal service expenditures to the percentage change in employer

contributions; and computing the percentage distribution of fringe benefit expenditures by fund source and comparing the computed distribution to the actual distribution of recorded payroll expenditures by fund source to determine if recorded payroll and fringe benefit expenditures were reasonable by expenditure account. The individual transactions selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.

4. We tested selected recorded operating transfers and appropriation transfers to determine if these transactions were properly described and classified in the accounting records; they agreed with the supporting documentation, were adequately documented and explained, were properly approved, and were mathematically correct; and the internal controls over these transactions were adequate. The individual transactions selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
5. We tested selected entries and monthly totals in the subsidiary records of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council to determine if the amounts were mathematically accurate; the numerical sequences of selected document series were complete; the selected monthly totals were accurately posted to the general ledger; and the internal controls over the tested transactions were adequate. The transactions selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
6. We obtained all monthly reconciliations prepared by the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council for the year ended June 30, 1999 and tested selected reconciliations of balances in the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council's accounting records to those in STARS as reflected on the Comptroller General's reports to determine if they were accurate and complete. For the selected reconciliations, we recalculated the amounts, agreed the applicable amounts to the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council's general ledger, agreed the applicable amounts to the STARS reports, determined if reconciling differences were adequately explained and properly resolved, and determined if necessary adjusting entries were made in the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council's accounting records and/or in STARS. The reconciliations selected for testing were chosen randomly. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
7. We tested the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council's compliance with all applicable financial provisions of the South Carolina Code of Laws, Appropriation Act, and other laws, rules, and regulations for fiscal year 1999. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
8. We obtained copies of closing packages as of and for the year ended June 30, 1999, except for the General Fixed Assets and Operating Lease Closing Packages, prepared by the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council as submitted to the State Comptroller General. We reviewed them to determine if they were prepared in accordance with the Comptroller General's GAAP Closing Procedures Manual requirements; if the amounts were reasonable; and if they agreed with the supporting workpapers and accounting records. We found no exceptions as a result of the procedures.
9. We were advised that the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council did not receive any Federal Financial Assistance. As a result, we performed no procedures in this area.

We were not engaged to, and did not, perform an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the specified areas, accounts, or items. Further, we were not engaged to express an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express such opinions. Had we performed additional procedures or had we conducted an audit or review of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council's financial statements or any part thereof, other matters might have come to our attention that

would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the members of the General Assembly; the Office of the State Auditor; and the governing body and management of the South Carolina Legislative Audit Council and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

August 25, 1999